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Interim Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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April 07, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: AMENDMENT TO THE CONSULTANT SERVICES
AGREEMENT WITH SAPPHOS ENVIRONMENTAL, INC., FOR THE PROPOSED COUNTY
OF LOS ANGELES HAULED WATER INITIATIVE
(ALL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This Board letter recommends approval to authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to amend and supplement the current Consultant Services Agreement with Sapphos Environmental, Inc., for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Report for the proposed County of Los Angeles Hauled Water Initiative.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed Project recommendations are not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, for the reasons stated in this letter and the record of the Project.
2. Approve and authorize the Director of Public Works, or her designee, to amend and supplement the existing Department of Public Works task order contract with Sapphos Environmental, Inc. for the preparation of the required Environmental Impact Report (EIR), for the proposed County of Los Angeles Hauled Water Initiative in the amount of \$117,000, plus a \$16,000 contingency for a total of \$133,000, increasing the total cost of this effort from \$858,000 to \$991,000, and increases the maximum, not-to-exceed Consultant Services Agreement PW13250 from \$3,358,000 to \$3,491,000.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The recommended actions authorizes the Department of Public Works to amend and supplement the consultant services agreement with Sapphos Environmental, Inc. to continue the necessary work to prepare and finalize the Environmental Impact Report, and all related documentation and services for the proposed County of Los Angeles Hauled Water Initiative, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Further, should the Board authorize the amendment increasing the contract sum, the Department intends to execute a contract amendment with Sapphos Environmental, Inc. to revise the scope, and make the required technical and procedural changes, resulting from revisions of the study area of the environmental review for this project. The revisions are necessary due to new information concerning the location of single-family residential zoning and water purveyor boundaries.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action is consistent with principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1), by increasing our ability to provide efficient and high-quality public services.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

This supplement will increase the not-to-exceed contract by \$133,000, and increases the cost of this effort from \$858,000 to \$991,000, and increases the maximum, not-to-exceed Consultant Services Agreement PW13250 from \$3,358,000 to \$3,491,000.

Funding for the proposed amendment is included in the Fiscal Year 2014-15 Public Works-General Fund Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On April 1, 2014, the Board authorized the Department of Public Works to amend the agreement with Sapphos Environmental, Inc. for consultant services for the proposed County of Los Angeles Hauled Water Initiative to conduct an Initial Study, and prepare the resulting environmental document in connection with a proposed ordinance, implementing the draft “hauled water policy” for new single-family residential construction in unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County meeting specified criteria.

Sapphos Environmental, Inc. completed the Initial Study in June 2014. The Initial Study concluded that an EIR was the appropriate environmental document for the project. On September 17, 2014, the County and Sapphos Environmental, Inc. published and mailed a Notice of Preparation, notifying the public that an EIR was being prepared. The County and Sapphos also held four scoping meetings, where members of the public and public agencies were given the opportunity to comment about the project.

The draft EIR is currently being prepared; however, additional funds of \$133,000 are necessary to address a revised scope of work, complete technical studies for a revised study area, and complete the EIR process.

The consultant services agreement amendment will be in compliance with the Chief Executive Officer’s and the Board’s requirements.

The original consultant services agreement contains terms and conditions supporting the Board's ordinances and policies, including, but not limited to, County's Greater Avenues for Independence and General Relief Opportunities for Work, Board Policy No. 5.050; Contract Language to Assist in Placement of Displaced County Workers, Board Policy No. 5.110; Reporting of Improper Solicitations, Board Policy No. 5.060; Notice to Contract Employees of Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law), Board Policy No. 5.135; Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.203; Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law), Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015; Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.202; Los Angeles County Child Support Compliance Program, Los Angeles County Code Chapter 2.200; and the standard Board-directed clauses that provide for agreement termination or renegotiation.

Community Business Enterprise participation data, required certification forms, and 3-year contracting history with the County are on file with Public Works for Sapphos Environmental, Inc.

The consultant services agreement includes a cost of living adjustment provision in accordance with the Board Policy, which was approved on January 29, 2002.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed action is not a project pursuant to the CEQA because it is an activity that is excluded from the definition of a project by Section 15378(b) of the State CEQA Guidelines. The proposed action is an administrative activity of the government, which will not result in direct or indirect changes to the environment.

Further, the proposed action constitutes planning and feasibility studies for possible future actions, and is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15262 of the State CEQA Guidelines. An EIR prepared in accordance with CEQA will be completed for the Board's consideration before any discretionary actions related to the Hauled Water Initiative project are brought back to the Board. The Board retains its discretion to approve, modify, or disapprove the proposed project based upon CEQA, or any other grounds, and this recommendation does not commit the County to a definite course of action on the proposed Hauled Water Initiative project.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There will be no negative impact on current County services as a result of this proposed contract amendment. This agreement will provide the necessary environmental assessment document for consideration of the potential use of a hauled water policy for future residential development in Los Angeles County.

CONCLUSION

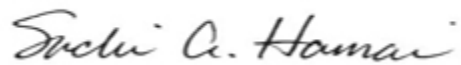
Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Central Services, and one copy to the Department of Public Works, Programs Development Division.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

4/7/2015

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sachi A. Hamai".

SACHI A. HAMAI

Interim Chief Executive Officer

SAH:TT

AMT:acn

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Public Works
Public Health
Regional Planning